VZCZCXRO1727 RR RUEHOU DE RUEHPU #0101 0131918 ZNR UUUUU ZZH R 131918Z JAN 06 FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2071 INFO RUEHZH/HAITI COLLECTIVE RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 0891 RUEHWN/AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN 1454 RUEHKG/AMEMBASSY KINGSTON 1939 RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO 2406 RUEHBH/AMEMBASSY NASSAU 2636 RUEHSP/AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN 1592 RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 0725 RUEHDG/AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO 0324 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 0236 RUEHQU/AMCONSUL QUEBEC 0338 RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM J2 MIAMI FL RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0777

UNCLAS PORT AU PRINCE 000101

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR WHA/CAR
DRL
S/CRS
SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD
STATE PASS AID FOR LAC/CAR
INR/IAA (BEN-YEHUDA)
TREASURY FOR JEFFREY LEVINE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PREL KDEM PKAO HA

SUBJECT: HAITI ELECTIONS: OAS DISTRIBUTES OVER 60 PERCENT

OF ID CARDS

REF: PAP 40

- 11. According to OAS electoral chief Elizabeth Spehar, the OAS has received all 3.5 million ID cards and had distributed 2,070,369 or 59 percent as of their most recent reports from the field on January 11. Taking into account delayed reporting of distribution outside of Port-au-Prince, Spehar estimated that the OAS had actually distributed nearly 2.3 million or 65 percent of cards. Provinces previously far behind in distribution (reftel) have begun to catch up, but the smallest percentage of distributed cards, 30 percent is still in the South East.
- 12. Spehar reports that the pace of distribution is too slow to end distribution January 15, as previously planned, and that the OAS will keep its centers open through January 21. From January 22 24, the OAS will consolidate the cards at the communal electoral bureaus (BECs), which, with pending agreement from the CEP, will resume distribution from January 25 to February 6. Spehar said she is against leaving distribution open on Election Day, February 7, in order to minimize confusion. Spehar said the OAS would shift its personnel to help in other areas when it closed its distribution centers, leaving on 3 or 4 employees to assist with distribution at the BECs. She will propose that the remaining 500 or so OAS staff be integrated into the CEP, and ultimately the permanent electoral council to manage the ongoing civil registry, as called for in the electoral decree of February 2005. CARNEY